Information Technology Business Case – Section B Miami-Dade County – FY 2005-06

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Directions: Please complete shaded areas below.

Department Name: Finance

Project Name: Implementing a Financial and Purchasing Data Warehouse

Project Amount: \$700,000

Preparer Name & Contact Information: Connie White, 305-375-3738, vaw@miamidade.gov

Section B

(Complete Only If Asking for Revenue from GF Capital or IT Administrative Fee)

Improves Customer Service

Describe how the other customer departments will be better served by implementing this initiative.

- A Financial and Purchasing Data Warehouse will improve the service to other customer departments by
- (1) Providing a **self-service** application that offers capabilities to obtain data for managerial analysis and adhoc queries and reporting, and allow for data extraction into desktop applications, such as Excel.
- (2) Providing the capability of **merging financial and purchasing data** into general views that can be analyzed and reported from. Currently, this capability is limited to some extract programs created inhouse requiring programmer intervention every time a new request needs to be fulfilled.
- (3) Therefore, providing a **significant overall reduction** on time and effort to obtain required information.

Impacts Citizens

Describe how this initiative will simplify or enhance doing business with the County. Also state how this will enhance public perception

By providing our customer departments with access to the data in a more flexible manner and by providing management with better analysis tools, we expect that the departments delivering a service to the citizens will be able to capitalize by, at a minimum, reducing time and resources that might be used to obtain and analyze this data now.

Improves Business Processes

State how this project will lower costs, speed up key business processes, and/or improve decision-making ability. Also indicate if the initiative will improve employee morale, communication, and/or education.

It is very hard to quantify the costs that are currently being incurred when extracts must be written, data massaged, checked and validated, or manually extracted from reports or on-line queries. Departments receive requests from upper management, Budget, and the Commission that require responses oftentimes merging financial and operational data. Our legacy systems (Financial and Procurement) do not provide the flexibility to extract the requested data. A data warehouse tool with the data already extracted and validated will allow departments direct, quicker and more flexible access to the information required, as well as, means to download it to desktop applications (such as Excel) for further processing and analysis.

A further benefit is that data available via the warehouse could more easily interface with other systems using web-based architecture while still providing a shield to our core operating financial and purchasing data. For example, systems such as Performance Management and others that require access to the data could do so more easily accessing the warehouse than the base operational data.

Strategic Alignment to the County's Goals

Describe how this IT Investment lines up with the realization of the County's goals and objectives.

This request aligns with the County goal of using IT resources to solve/improve operations – see above-described benefits and impacts.

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Departmental Participation

State if this project crosses departmental boundaries. Indicate how many other departments will participate in the initiative. Please specify which departments and funding commitments if any.

This project will impact primarily the Department of Procurement Management based on the need to provide support and validation for the procurement-part of the data in the warehouse. This project will require that the hardware and software be maintained by ETSD.

Finance has been approached by several departments interested in participating in this project, for example, OSBM, Fire, ETSD (as users), and Audit among others.

At this time there are no funding commitments; we are requesting COR funding.

Risks

Indicate any risks involved to include procurement delays, personnel delays, and environmental delays to include change of technology, vendors, etc.

If current infrastructure is not sufficient for the needs of this implementation, it is possible that additional hardware and software license (Cognos, Oracle?) acquisitions that will be required for this implementation.

At this time, the County has acquired an ERP application. This application will necessitate that a new set of data extracts for the warehouse would be developed. It is considered that the data clean up and reformatting that will be required to implement the data warehouse will be a step up to the data conversion required for an ERP implementation countywide. This data warehouse, expected to be implemented within a year, would benefit the County in the short term.

Use of an Enterprise Infrastructure

Will this solution utilize an enterprise infrastructure already in place (yes or no)? Please explain.

Yes, this solution will utilize an enterprise infrastructure already in place. It is believe that it will use the Regatta, Oracle, and Cognos that County already owns. Further analysis by ETSD and Tier is required.

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Section C Financial Information

ETSD Dependencies (See Budget Manual)	FY05-06	FY06-07
Infrastructure	ETSD and Tier must determine	ETSD and Tier must determine
Application Programmer	1 FTE	1 FTE
Database	ETSD and Tier must determine	ETSD and Tier must determine
Telecommunication		
Radio		
Etc.		

Department Specific Costs	FY05-06	FY06-07
Personnel		
Hardware		
Software		
Maintenance Fees	None	Expecting as part of new Tier
		contract
Consultant Fees	200,000	100,000
Etc.		